ROSWELL PARK MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

Department of Health ■ State of New York

666 Elm Street ■ Buffalo, New York, 14263

David Axelrod, M.D.
Commissioner of Health

John R. Wright, M.D.
Institute Director

June 25, 1986

Sheldon C. Sommers, M.D.
The Council for Tobacco Research -
U.S.A., Inc.
900 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Dr. Sommers:

As a follow-up of our phone conversation of today, I am glad to submit to you information regarding the Third MIC Workshop to take place in Scottsdale, ARIZONA in early 1987 under the auspices of The Genetics Center of the Southwest Biomedical Research Institute. Before I do so, I would like to thank you for your kind remarks regarding my contributions to cancer cytogenetics. Coming from a person in your position, it means much to me.

The MIC Workshops were initiated by members of the FAB group and interested cytogeneticists in Europe and the USA in order to incorporate chromosome changes as part of the classification systems for the lymphomas, leukemias and related disorders. This was deemed necessary in view of the cytogenetic definition of specific subentities within these diseases, each subentity having a unique chromosome change associated with characteristic histology or morphology, prognosis and probably etiology. Thus, a new and more comprehensive classification of these diseases is being accomplished and known as MIC (morphologic, immunologic and cytogenetic) systems.

The First MIC Workshop was held in Belgium in April 1985 and dealt with acute lymphoblastic leukemia; the Second MIC Workshop is to take place in Belgium again in September, 1986 and will deal with acute non-lymphocytic leukemias. Dr. John Bennett of the University of Rochester and I are responsible for the Third MIC Workshop to be held, as indicated above, in the USA in 1987; it will concern itself with lymphomas and myelodysplastic disorders.

To-date, we have received $15,000 from the General Motors Research Foundation and $7,500 from the Shell Oil Company. We need a total of $30,000 and, hence, we are turning to the Council for Tobacco Research for support in the amount of $5,000, which should go a long way towards our realizing optimal organization and membership of the Workshop. The money is to be used exclusively to cover the cost of transportation of the attending members and their living expenses while at the Workshop. The proceedings of each Workshop will be published and, of course, the support of the Council will be duly acknowledged.

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The participants of the Workshop represent some of the world's leading figures in the diagnosis, classification and biology of the disorders to be covered. In addition to incorporating new developments in cytogenetics, immunology and morphology into new and comprehensive classifications of these diseases, the Workshops have attempted to delineate the background to the etiology of some of these disorders.

We sincerely hope that the Council and you will generously extend support for the Third Workshop, which all of us wish to be a great success, considering its important mission in medicine.

Thank you for your help and interest.

Sincerely yours,

Avery A. Sandberg, M.D.
Chief, Department of
Genetics and Endocrinology
Division of Medicine

AAS/amd

P.S., Should the Council extend support for the Workshop, please send the check to:

Dr. Frederick Hecht, President
The Genetics Center
6401 E. Thomas
Scottsdale, ARIZONA 85251

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